

INFANT DIES IN FLAMES, 1 HURT

Cuban Chief White House Guest; Urges Full Support of War Effort

Show Strength Of Free Men, Race Unity, No Bias in Cuba

By Alvin E. White

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (ANP).—To the Negroes of the United States, Fulgencio Batista, president of the Cuban republic, expressed the hope that they would show the same strength that all free men in the world are showing and that they may lend their aid to the final achievement of victory and thus insure justice and freedom all over the world.

Batista, visiting the United States on official mission, was seen in the famous old mansion, the Blair house, just opposite the state department.

Surrounded by members of his own official family, members of the Cuban embassy and military aides from the United States Army and Navy, the "strong man" of Cuba did not belie his title.

Of medium height, broad of shoulder, flashing of black eye, Batista cordially welcomed his colored visitors with an accented "I am very glad to know you."

After a long wait for the President, we were finally ushered into the drawing room. En route to a formal dinner being arranged by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, President Batista told his aide he would gladly stop and see the visitors, thereby delaying his appointment for about 10 minutes.

A formal introduction in the hall of the mansion, where the entire staff stood respectfully awaiting the word of the President, was followed by a few courteous words in Spanish by Dr. Ben Carruthers of the Pan-American union, President Batista then waved us to the drawing room, saying in English, "We will go in here and talk."

Here he was asked for a statement to the colored people of America. Half in Spanish and half in English, he gave utterance to the words above.

Asked about the benefits accruing to the native Cubans as a result of his administration, Batista said, "There are no racial differences in Cuba. We are all working toward one union, and one solidarity."

He was then asked about his favorite project, the newly established educational system, and how his minister of education, a Negro, Sen. Ramon Vasconcelos would fit into the scheme.

To this Batista replied that Dr. Vasconcelos would take an active part in the new program of progress.

Gracious to the "nth" degree, President Batista easily gave the impression of a man of destiny. His every act bespoke of the strength and determination to make Cuba a nation to be recognized.

This little island republic declared war on the Axis just shortly after the attack upon Pearl Harbor and was one of the first Latin American nations to openly declare itself an ally of the U. S.

Here to cement the relations between this and his own country, President Batista has made many friends by his simple and direct approach to all problems facing his native land.

Interesting is that the new plans for the development of the Cuban

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ability to helping boys, with the sole desire of nothing for himself except the satisfaction of having rendered service."

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Ethiopia Gets Lease-Lend Aid Report Flyers Face Early Combat Duty

Believe Squadrons Will Prove Excellent In Oversea Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (ANP).—The war department broke its long silence concerning plans for Negro pilots in combat service and announced that it expected the first Negro Squadron would "very soon" be on active duty overseas.

The department expressed satisfaction over results obtained in its "experimental" training of Negro flyers in combat units.

"From results so far obtained, it is believed that the squadrons will give an excellent account of themselves in combat and that they will be a credit to their race and to Americans everywhere," stated Maj. Gen. James R. Ullie, adjutant general of the army.

Despite the hopeful announcement, the department said it regarded as "unwise" consideration of plans to expand the present training program for Negro flyers as pursuit pilots.

Information that the airman would soon be in the foreign service was contained in a letter to Congressman Raymond McKeough (Dem., Ill.), from Maj. Gen. Ullie.

A request was made upon Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson several months ago by McKeough to grant every opportunity to citizens of all races, colors and creeds to aid the national war effort.

The Illinois congressman has long been an admirer of Negro flyers and has been active in attempts to secure full participation for them in the war program.

HULL HOST TO NEW HAITIAN MINISTER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (ANP).—Secretary of State and Mrs. Cordell Hull were hosts to the new Haitian minister, M. Andre Liatard and Mme Liatard at exclusive Wardman Park Hotel on Wednesday. Before visiting the Halls, the Haitian minister and his wife had been the guests of Mrs. Roosevelt at a White House tea.

GOOD FELLOWS FACE DEADLINE WITH PLEAS FOR HELP GROWING

EVANGEL SAYS MEETINGS HELD FOR WHITES; LETTER REVEALS

Still struggling mightily, THE RECORDER Good Fellows Christmas Cheer Fund staggers under the huge mail bag, into which hundreds of letters have been poured by the needy persons of the city. The demand is so great and the need so urgent that the Good Fellows disclosed today that contributions will be received as late as late Christmas eve.

Because of transportation and other problems, several groups and business houses have cancelled plans for Christmas parties and other activities usually given for the underprivileged children and jobless persons of the city. This situation results in an even greater burden being placed at the door of the Good Fellows.

Every means is being used to bring to the attention of clubs and other public-spirited groups, as well as individuals, the poverty of thousands and the black outlook for getting food, clothing and coal.

A letter reposes in RECORDER files supporting the facts of the story appearing in the columns of THE RECORDER in recent weeks. The letter was addressed to Mrs. Nellie Pointer of Columbia avenue by the Miss Ethel R. Willets, evangelist, conducting the "soul saving campaign."

The evangelist in no uncompromising terms informs Mrs. Pointer that the meeting was conducted by white people and for white people. Letterheads of the evangelist carry the slogan, "My aim is hearts for Jesus." She states further in the letter, "There is absolutely no prejudice in my heart against you (Negro) people, and they are more than welcome to come and sit in the audience and enjoy the services."

But it appears, this was the extent of the contribution to the services expected of the Negroes in the meeting, inasmuch as the evangelist notes in her letter to Mrs. Pointer, that the meeting is a white people's meeting. And finally the evangelist notes in her letter that Mrs. Pointer should pray to God for forgiveness for

grounds boys in clean living and good citizenship. Every President of the United States, he said, is an honorary president of the Boy Scouts.

The city needs many more troops, the commissioner said, and local Scout headquarters is eager to supply information and full cooperation with any responsible individual, church or institution which would like to sponsor one. The Scouting program, it was stated, is an ideal one for the general church program and a great many troops are sponsored by and have headquarters in them.

Central district, the area which Commissioner Johnson supervises has 11 Scout troops and three Cub packs, a total of 235 boys; to this number much could and should be added. Two new troops have been added this year, sponsored by Rev. Baltimore and Lockefield Parents' Council.

O. A. JOHNSON

Charge Mother, 18, With Child Neglect As E'side Flat Burns

DRIVER BOUND TO GRAND JURY; MANSLAUGHTER

Harold Harrison, 20 years old, 2409 Bond street, was bound to the Marion county grand jury Tuesday afternoon in municipal court room 4 by Judge John L. Niblack on a charge of involuntary manslaughter. Two other charges of speeding and reckless driving were nolleed by deputy prosecutor, Robert Rutherford.

Harrison was the driver of a car which ran out of bounds early Monday morning October 19th at Langsdale street and Northwest avenue killing one person, John Henry Tate, 21 years old, 1145 Roache street, and injuring several others.

Harrison, recently released from City hospital suffered a skull depression in the wreck and was in a critical condition for some time. Judge Niblack set Harrison's bond at \$100.

Revived One Child. Mrs. Boule told investigators that she put a few pieces of wood in the small stove before she left to go down the street to get some coal. When she left, she said, both the baby and her other son were asleep and the Ingram child was sitting on the floor. A few minutes later as she started back home, she said, a fire truck passed by and stopped at her home. When she got there firemen were trying to rescue the children.

Captain Paul Boling, Howard Vaughn, and Francis Commons rushed into the blazing room and brought the other children out. Battalion Chief Charles Millinder sent in an alarm for an inhalator and Assistant Fire Chief Roscoe McKinney brought a large and small inhalator on the fire department rescue squad. They were able to revive the older child but the infant died there. It has erroneously been reported that the child died in an ambulance. Dr. Hubert L. Collins, deputy coroner, conducted a post-mortem examination.

Was Second Fire. Willie Ingram, who had gone to the next room of the small house, smelled the smoke and ran across the hall and told Miss Gray. In investigating the case further, Chief Lynch learned that the stove was not more than a foot from the

POWER SEWING JOBS OPEN; NYA OFFERS TRAINING

Many war jobs at good wages await young persons between the ages 16 to 25, who have been trained at the NYA War Training Center, 2401 Keystone avenue. Industry is making increasing demands for NYA trainees and many of these young persons are holding important jobs. As the labor demands grow, it is necessary that workers be trained. Either married or single persons may apply. Girls wishing to learn power sewing are in great demand and both young men and women are paid while they learn a skill to aid national defense.

ST. LOUIS UNION PUTS \$100,000 IN BONDS

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 18. (ANP).—Local 53 of the International Hod Carriers and Building Laborers' Union, AFL, last week purchased an additional \$50,000 worth of war bonds which brings the total bought by the local to \$100,000, it was announced by Roger Stewart, president, and Spencer Austin, treasurer. The local has 1,800 members.

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In his reply, President Roosevelt cabled:

"It is gratifying to accept the adherence of Ethiopia to the Declaration by United Nations; to welcome as one of the United Nations the first state to regain its territory occupied by an Axis aggressor. You may be sure that there is deep appreciation for your offer to place at the disposal of the United Nations the military and economic resources of Ethiopia for use in the struggle against the common enemy."

In assuming the obligation of the United Nations declaration, Ethiopia joined the following 29 nations in the war on the Axis: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Union of South Africa, United States, USSR (Russia), and Yugoslavia.

Declaring that "the defense of Ethiopia is vital to the defense of the United States," President Roosevelt has ordered lend-lease aid extended to the Government of Ethiopia, the White House announced here today.

The action was revealed in a White House announcement which stated:

"The President has addressed E. R. Stettinius, Jr., Lend-Lease Administrator, a letter the text of which follows:

"For purpose of implementing the authority conferred upon you as Lend-Lease Administrator by Executive Order 8926, dated October 28, 1941, and in order to enable you to arrange for lend-lease aid to the Government of Ethiopia, I hereby find that the defense of Ethiopia is vital to the defense of the United States."

Ethiopia was welcomed to membership in the United Nations by President Roosevelt on October 9, 1942, after Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia had cabled the President:

"My Government and people are anxious to assume the obligations of the United Nations Pact. We, the first nation to regain its free-

dom and independence wish to see the military and economic resources of our country at the disposal of those nations who gladly sacrifice all for liberty and justice."

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"Unselfish Service:"

Coveted Honor Awarded Here To Veteran Boy Scout Leader

One of the highest and most coveted honors in Scouting was awarded O. A. Johnson, vice principal of John Hope School No. 26, and District Commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America, here recently because of unselfish service. Commissioner Johnson did not know he was to receive the award, the Silver Beaver, until his name, along with those of Gov. H. F. Schriker and several others, was called during a meeting in the auditorium of the World War Memorial. Prior to this time, there have been awarded just 15 Silver Beavers. The honor is conferred by the national Scout organization upon recommendation of local officials.

Commenting in part on Mr. Johnson's work, Scout officials remarked: "It is wonderful when a man gives so much of his time and

ability to helping boys, with the sole desire of nothing for himself except the satisfaction of having rendered service."

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